

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /062 W  
-----191112Z 009052 /20

O R 191030Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3377  
INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE 236  
USINT BAGHDAD  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM  
CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG  
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER  
COMSIXTHFLT  
CTF SIX ZERO  
CTF SIX ONE  
CTF SIX TWO  
CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO  
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA  
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN  
DIA WASHDC  
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1211

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, LE, ASEC, PINS  
SUBJECT: JUNBLATT ASSASSINATION - SITUATION MARCH 19

REF: BEIRUT 1191

1. SUMMARY. CALM PREVAILS IN BEIRUT, AND APPARENTLY  
ALSO IN THE CHOUF, ALTHOUGH TIGHT ASF SECURITY  
MEASURES CONTINUE. APPEALS FOR CALM AND BLAME OF  
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"PROVOCATEURS" CONTINUE FROM VARIOUS LEADERS. NO  
FURTHER INFORMATION ON WHO SHOT JUNBLATT. END SUMMARY.

2. BEIRUT. NIGHT OF MARCH 18-19 WAS QUIET, AND GENERAL  
CALM SEEMS TO BE PREVAILING IN ALL SECTORS OF BEIRUT  
MARCH 19, EVEN IN PREVIOUSLY TENSE AREAS SUCH AS  
MAZRAA. SHOPS ARE OPEN. ASF HOWEVER CONTINUES

VERY CLOSE SURVEILLANCE OF CIVILIAN TRAFFIC.

3. THE CHOUF. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON FURTHER KILLINGS IN THE CHOUF. AS IN BEIRUT, CALM SEEMS TO BE RETURNING. A TOTAL OF SOME 7,000 CHRISTIANS WHO HAD FLED THEIR VILLAGES INITIALLY FOR DEIR EL QAMAR HAVE BY NOW BEEN TRANSPORTED BY ASF VEHICLES TO EAST BEIRUT, WHERE CHRISTIAN MILITAS ARE LOOKING AFTER THEM.

4. LEADERSHIP CONTINUES EFFORTS TO CALM SITUATION. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERS OF ALL PERSUASIONS CONTINUE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST ACTS OF RETALIATION. WALID JUNBLATT CALLED ON HIS DRUZE FOLLOWERS TO BE TRUE TO THEIR TRADITION AND, "LET US WORK TOGETHER TO ASSURE SECURITY AND STABILITY FOR ALL INHABITANTS OF THIS MOUNTAIN." THE SHEIKH AQL OF THE DRUZES CALLED UPON DRUZES TO BE GOOD NEIGHBORS. INTERIOR MINISTER SALMAN SAID RUMORS OF MASSACRES AND OTHER ACTS WERE BEING SPREAD BY PROVOCATEURS. L'ORIENT LE JOUR SPEAKS OF "PROGRESSIVE NORMALIZATION."

5. ON THE RIGHT, CAMILLE CHAMOUN TOOK TACTIC OF ATTACKING THE BBC FOR "DEFORMING THE TRUTH" IN IMPLYING THAT 60 CHRISTIANS HAD BEEN KILLED BY DRUZES IN THE VICINITY OF NOUKHTARA. IN REALITY, HE SAID, THE DRUZE COMMUNITY "HAS NOT PARTICIPATED IN ANY ACTS OF VENGEANCE, " AND BLAMED "SOCIALIST  
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FACTIONS" IN THE VILLAGES FOR THE MURDERS THAT HAVE OCCURRED. FORMER PRESIDENT FRANGIE SAID CHAMOUN OBTAINED ON MARCH 18 A LIST OF 91 NAMES OF PEOPLE KILLED. THE BIG FOUR OF THE KFOUR FRONT ARE CALLING ON PRESIDENT SARKIS MARCH 19 TO DEMAND THAT THE PERPETRATORS OF THESE KILLINGS BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AND THAT THE NECESSARY SECURITY MEASURES BE TAKEN IN THE CHOUF.

6. WHO DID IT? PRESS CONTINUES CARRY ACCOUNTS OF ACTIVITIES OF THOSE INVESTIGATING THE CRIME, AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TWO VEHICLES INVOLVED, BUT NO FURTHER INFORMATION HAS EMERGED ON THE PERPETRATORS.  
PARKER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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